

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on Monday, February 9, 2009 in Room, 372 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Duba called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Duba  
Treasurer Freeman  
Commissioner Creary  
Commissioner Gravely  
Commissioner Lesser  
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of audience followed.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Duba reported the following:

- On January 29, 2009, the Lily Ledbetter Fair-Pay Act was signed. She thanked Commissioner Gravely for keeping the Commission updated on this important bill.
- Sheriff Baca will be attending the March 9, 2009 Commission meeting to provide information on the early Release of inmates. She would like Domestic Violence Shelter Directors invited to the meeting.
- Supervisor Knabe has donated \$900 for the Scholarship reception. Supervisor Knabe is the 2009 Honorary Race Chair. Gail Tierney, Deputy, has been actively involved in the 5K/10K planning process.
- Dr. Veda Ward has recently been appointed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. She will be attending the April Commission meeting. Dr. Ward is a professor at Cal State University Northridge. President Duba requested staff to send her the agenda and minutes for the last three months and information on the Women of the Year Luncheon.
- Shared a letter of thanks from Interval House and Amanacer for the shelter donation from the Commission
- Reminded Commissioners that the Scholarship Reception and Board presentation will be on February 17, 2009 in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.
- The Executive Committee met prior to the Commission meeting and is working on updating the various Commission documents. They are concerned with updating the Ordinance regarding the Quorum because of the vacancies in the Third District and Commissioner Mummey being unable to attend Commission meetings.

(Commissioner Pinedo arrived at 10:35 a.m.)

### **STAFF REPORT**

Staff reported the following:

- Reminded Commissioners that the 2009 Women's Conference is scheduled for October 27, 2009.
- Distributed a memo from the Auditor-Controllers Office regarding the change in mileage to 51.5 cents effective January 1, 2009.
- Announced that Commissioner Rodriguez has been reappointed to August 29, 2010.
- Announced that Go Red for Women month will be on the Boards agenda in mid-February. The Department of Human Resources will also be sponsoring a Go Red! Heart Health seminar on February 26, 2009 in support of the proclamation.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Freeman reported on the expendable allowance for the month of December 2008. The beginning balance of December was \$24,592.29; flex spending expenditures were \$0.00; ending balance is \$24,592.29. The carry-over for January 2009 Flex Spending Allocation is \$13,210.06

The beginning balance as of January 2009, was \$24,592.29; flex spending expenditures were \$0; ending balance is \$24,592.29. The carry-over for February Flex Spending Allocation is \$15,492.81.

Treasurer Freeman also presented a bi-annual report of the Commission spending from 7/ 2008 to 12/2008.

### **2009 AWARDS LUNCHEON AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORT**

Twila Kerr, Staff member, reported the following:

- Invites went out to 1,400 members on the mailing list and to the awardees guests.
- Kaiser Permanente is a Gold Sponsor and L.A. Care is a potential Silver Sponsor.
- The committee met this morning and will be contacting past sponsors to purchase ads or provide a donation.
- All awardees have confirmed their attendance.
- She is currently working on the journal and will be adding a center page ad focusing on the luncheon theme with statistical information on Domestic Violence and activities the Commission has supported. There will also be a page with

(Commission Jernigan arrived at 10:50 a.m. constituting a quorum)

Information regarding the Lily Ledbetter Act and additional information on the paycheck bill that has yet to be passed.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2009**

On motion of Commissioner Creary, seconded by Commissioner Lesser, and unanimously carried, the minutes of January 12, 2009 were approved with the following correction: *add Commissioner Wadie Gravely to the Commissioners Present.*

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

In presence of a quorum, Treasurer Freeman requested the Treasurer's Report to be received and filed for audit.

### **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO HOLD A 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETING ON SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2009 IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Lesser and seconded by Treasurer Freeman, with Commissioner Creary abstaining, the Commission approved to hold a 5<sup>th</sup> District Community Meeting on Saturday, May 9, 2009 in the Antelope Valley.

### **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO CANCEL THE MAY 11, 2009 COMMISSION FOR WOMEN MEETING**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Treasurer Freeman and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to cancel the May 11, 2009 Commission for Women meeting.

### **APPOINT THE 2009 RETREAT CHAIR AND FORM THE 2009 AD-HOC RETREAT COMMITTEE**

President Duba withdrew this agenda item and tabled for a future meeting.

### **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO HOST A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PANEL DISCUSSION IN APRIL 2009 WITH A BUDGET NOT TO EXCEED \$500**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Treasurer Freeman, with Commissioner Lesser abstaining, the Commission approved to host a Domestic Violence panel discussion in April 2009 with a budget not to exceed \$500. Commissioner Rodriguez reported that the event will start at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2009 if the Board schedules are available.

### **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TICKETS TO THE GO RED FOR WOMEN LUNCHEON ON FEBRUARY 25, 2009 AT THE LOS ANGELES MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN WITH A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$500**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Creary, seconded by Commissioner Lesser, the Commission approved to purchase up to five tickets to the Go Red for

Women Luncheon on February 25, 2009 at the Los Angeles Marriott Downtown with a cost not to exceed \$500.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones arrived at 11:20 a.m.)

Commissioner Creary stated that the Commission is getting a discount rate on the tickets which will allow them to purchase more than two tickets. Commissioner's Pinedo, Lesser and President Duba are interested in attending. Commissioner Creary will also be attending and will not need to purchase a ticket. President Duba asked staff to contact Dr. Veda Ward and extend her an invitation to attend. Treasurer Freeman reported that Assemblywoman Sharon Runner collaborated with the American Heart Association and had a luncheon in the Antelope Valley. She suggested that the Health Committee also collaborate with the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valley Chapters of the American Heart Association.

**ENDORSE AND ATTEND THE LATINA HEART HEALTH CONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION WESTERN STATES BRANCH ON FEBRUARY 24, 2009 AT THE CHICANA SERVICE ACTION CENTER AT NO COST TO THE COMMISSION**

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Creary, the Commission unanimously approved to endorse and attend the Latina Heart Health Conference hosted by the American Heart Association Western States Branch on February 24, 2009 at the Chicana Service Action Center at no cost to the Commission. Commissioner Pinedo would like to attend and suggested that a table with Commission for Women information be set-up.

**UPDATE ON THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION**

Commissioner Becerra-Jones reported that the scholarship reception will be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 140 at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. She thanked the Commissioners for their efforts in contacting the scholarship recipients and securing R.S.V.P's. She also went over the draft program and the various speakers. Speakers include: Dr. Susie Baldwin, LAC Department of Public Health, Sharon Wei, Interval House, will be premiering a film on "Preventing Dating Domestic Violence", Ms. Caballero, Dean of Administration and Student Services, Los Angeles County College of Nursing and Allied Health, Eloisa Gonzales, M.D. M.P.H., Department of Public Health, Patrice Barber, R.D., University of Southern California and Pastor Herrera Jr., Director, LA County Department of Consumer Affairs.

To keep the full program on schedule, Commissioner Lesser will be the time keeper the day of the event.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Communications Committee:** No Report.

**Legislation:** Commissioner Jernigan reported that the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act had recently passed and it was the first bill signed by President Obama. She also reported that at the last Commission meeting she requested a letter of congratulations be sent to former Assemblywoman Hilda Solis for her appointment as Secretary of Labor. Unfortunately, Assemblywoman Solis' appointment has not been officially confirmed. She urges all women to send support to the President to appoint her.

She would like some of the Commissioners to join the Legislative Committee. Staff reported that they have received three responses from the solicitation letter from Commissioner Jernigan urging Domestic Violence Shelter directors to join the Legislative Committee. Commissioner Jernigan will be scheduling a meeting.

She also submitted three news articles regarding various Domestic Violence issues going on in the County and would like to share the articles with the Sheriffs Department and District Attorneys office. Treasurer Freeman is concerned that Women's bills are not getting through the Legislative Committee process and Commissioner Rodriguez reported that the CA Partnership to End DV, the City DV Task Force and the LA County Domestic Violence Council have a committees that thoroughly review legislation that deals with women.

**Health:** Commissioner Lesser reported that the Health Committee met on January 29, 2009 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. by teleconference. The Committee is made up of seven members and they are focusing on health prevention. In October, the Committee will be working on mental health Outreach and have several other action plans. Commissioner Creary announced that the S-Chip Bill passed into law- expanding health care for children. Genevieve Clavreul, committee member, commented on the convicted rapist working as an x-ray technician at a County facility.

The next teleconference calls are scheduled for March 18 and May 22, at 12:30. Commissioner Rodriguez announced that Blue Shield of CA charges women more for routine health examinations and she will forward Commissioners information on a bill regarding this issue. Commissioner Becerra-Jones would like the Health Committee to monitor an incident report being compiled by the Department of Health, Quality Improvement Section on the death of Edith Rodriguez on the emergency room floor at King-Harbor. The final report will be going to the Board for approval.

**Domestic Violence:** No Report.

**Education:** Commissioner Becerra-Jones reported that she is working on a survey to send out to all past scholarship recipients.

**Older Women's Issues Committee:** No Report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Genevieve Clavreul shared an article she wrote that was published in Working Nurse regarding the new LAC-USC Medical Center. She also expressed concerns with the

female mutilations going on in Kenya. She shared with the Commission that she monitors every bill to do with women, nursing and workman's comp and invited everyone to visit her website.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Creary attended the following:

- Martin Luther King Celebration with Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas honoring Superior Court Judge Candace Cooper at the CA African American Museum on January 12, 2009.
- Inauguration Activities and Ceremonies for President Obama and Vice-President Joseph Biden in Washington, D.C on January 18-21, 2009.
- Weighting 2 Exhale Health and Wellness Symposium and Fair at the Venice Boys and Girls Club on January 24, 2009.
- Non-profit Seminar sponsored by the CA Legislative Black Caucus Foundation and the Office of Assembly Speaker Karen Bass at the CA Science Center on February 6, 2009.

Treasurer Freeman attended the Sister Together in Retirement (STIRS) meeting in Downey on January 23, 2009 and graciously accepted a \$500 donation for the scholarship fund on behalf of the Commission. Treasurer Freeman reminded staff to send a Thank You letter to STIRS.

Commissioner Pinedo shared her experience navigating County Mental Health resources for a family member. She suggested that Mental Health resources be added to the Commission website. Commissioner Lesser attended two meetings with the Office of Women's Health and shared that as a society, we are vitamin D deficient and encourages everyone to look at the proper dosage for themselves

Commissioner Jernigan shared that there are many new homeless women and their children living on Skid Row and asked Commissioners to take time to stop by to say hello and donate anything you can.

### **MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA (to be presented and placed on a future agenda):**

Commissioner Lesser would like the endorsement of Denim Day on the next agenda. She also suggested an endorsement list to be created.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

### **ATTENDANCE**

### **COMMISSIONERS**

Reiko Duba, President  
Peggy Freeman, Treasurer  
Yolanda Becerra-Jones

Ruth V. Creary, Ph.D.  
Wadie Gravely  
Ruth Jernigan  
Charlotte Lesser  
Michelle Pinedo  
Olivia Rodríguez

**EXCUSED**

Bobbi Jean Tanberg, Vice President  
Karin Davalos  
Janet Mummey, Esq.

**COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Rhonda Rangel, Twila Kerr and Nyla Jefferson Executive Office  
Elaine Rodriguez, OAAC

**GUESTS**

Geneviève Clavreul  
Pat Wilson